

that he had located several Green Herons at Charleston Lake in the County of Leeds, and had obtained positive proof that they were breeding there. On June 14, 1899, we visited the lake together and investigated a grove of young trees which was partly submerged as a result of the blocking up of the outlet to the lake. The flooded territory was anything but an inviting field for investigation, even by enthusiastic ornithologists, as it was almost impossible to shove a punt through the tangle; to wade in slime and water three or four feet deep was not an attractive occupation, and the presence of clouds of mosquitoes made a long stay in the vicinity out of the question. We had not penetrated the tangle many yards before a deserted nest was seen; twenty yards or so further on was a second nest, and while we approached it a Green Heron flew to it, but immediately departed on seeing the intruders.

The nest was a platform of sticks, placed nine feet from the water in an ash sapling. After considerable difficulty, the eggs, five in number, were secured and proved to be somewhat advanced in incubation. The millions of mosquitoes and the impenetrable nature of the grove made further investigation impossible, although we saw several Green Herons. The probability is that other nests existed. In another locality we found two nests, one of which had recently contained eggs.

Two Herons were noticed at this place, and it is evident from what we learned that these birds are comparatively common about Charleston Lake. Not wishing to disturb the birds after having satisfactorily established the fact that these Herons breed as far north as the County of Leeds, we declined further contest with the battalions of mosquitoes, whose breeding and other habits are too well known to require further investigation.—C. K. CLARKE, M. D., *Kingston, Ont.*

White-tailed Hawk in Arizona.—Two years ago, while crossing the desert between Florence and Red Rock, I found a nest of the White-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albicaudatus sennetti*) upon which the bird was sitting. The nest held a single egg, far advanced in incubation. The parent was not secured. The past spring I shot here at Phoenix a fine male of this species, thus showing beyond any doubt that it occurs in Arizona as an annual breeder and not merely as an accidental straggler.—G. F. BRENNINGER, *Phoenix, Arizona.*

A Phenomenal Flight of Hawks.—Early on the morning of August 29, 1899, while hunting Bartramian Sandpipers on the hay bottom southwest of Neligh, I was surprised to see the portion of the bottom bordering the Elkhorn River fairly covered with, what I then thought, an exceedingly large flock of Crows. But the few individuals who occasionally arose and lazily flapped their wings for a short distance had the flight of Hawks; and Hawks they proved to be, in extraordinary numbers. The majority were resting upon the ground, but each fence post had its occupant, and some were in the neighboring trees. They appeared to be

quite wearied, as if from a protracted flight, and even the noise of a gun caused but a few of the nearest to fly.

I shot two of the Hawks as they slowly flew over me, both of which belonged to the same species, *Buteo swainsoni*. And, with but one exception (an American Rough-leg), all that I observed were of this species.

I estimated the number of Hawks on this one bottom at between three and four hundred, and was informed by farmers farther up the river that large numbers of the birds were on the bottoms there at the same time. The greater number resumed their journey southward in a loose body an hour or so after sunrise, but a few remained throughout the day. The next morning none were seen.

It would be extremely interesting to know the cause of this unusual flight of Hawks. I have known for some time that *Buteo swainsoni* migrates to the south in the fall, but have never before seen them in flocks, or going southward so early in the season. There had been no cold weather here at the time of the flight; rather the opposite. Possibly in the Dakotas (their breeding grounds) there may have been some atmospheric disturbance which would account for the early exodus. There was also a very large flight of Bartramian Sandpipers on the same morning, but no other birds were present in unusual numbers.—
MERRITT CARY, Neligh, Nebraska.

A Musical Woodpecker.—My attention was first called to this talented bird by the rapid vibrations of one of the four wires running into our office. Looking down the track from where the noise seemed to proceed I spied a Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) on top of a pole not far away. Leaving the office I went down to the stock pens to watch proceedings. I did not have long to wait, for he began in a short time drumming vigorously against a protruding piece of wire. The piece of wire in question was about ten or twelve inches long with a loop in the center; it stood straight up parallel with the pole and about six inches above it, and protruded from a joint or splice in the wire, left there by some careless lineman.

The Woodpecker would drum against it for ten to fifteen seconds at a time, stopping now and then to listen to the humming of the wire, or fly out to catch a passing insect. He would stop and listen in evident enjoyment, then utter a call and proceed. He kept this up for over a month, when he disappeared and I have not seen him since.—
OTTO HOLSTEIN, Muir, Ky.

Note on the Name Drymophila.—Mr. H. C. Oberholser has recently (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil., June, 1899, 213) made use of Temminck's name *Drymophila* to replace *Philentoma* Eyton, for a genus of Old World Flycatchers, on the supposition that Swainson's *Drymophila* was preoccupied by Temminck's use of the term. Swainson first published it in Oct., 1824 (Zool. Journ., I, 302), without diagnosis or indication of a